BEFORE THE NEVADA STATE BOARD OF FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES

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TRUCKEE MEADOWS CREMATION & BURIAL SERVICES, Establishment Permit EST108, Crematory License CRE102;

Respondent.

IN THE MATTER OF

CASE NO. FB17-19

CONSENT DECREE

The State of Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services ("BOARD") having jurisdiction over TRUCKEE MEADOWS CREMATION & BURIAL SERVICES ("TMCBS"), Funeral Establishment Permit No. EST108 and Crematory License No. CRE102; pursuant to NRS 642.5175; complaint against said license and permit holders having received alleging violations of the Nevada statutes and regulations controlling the practice of operating funeral establishments and operating crematories; and the parties being mutually desirous of settling the controversy between them relative to the pending complaint;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED between the undersigned parties that this matter shall be settled and resolved upon the following terms:

VOLUNTARY WAIVER OF RIGHTS

TMCBS is aware of, understand, and have been advised of the effect of this Consent Decree, which has been carefully read and fully acknowledged. TMCBS has had the opportunity to consult with competent counsel of their choice.

TMCBS has freely and voluntarily entered into this Consent Decree, and is aware of their rights to contest the pending charges. These rights include representation by an attorney at their own expense, the right to file an answer in response to a formal complaint, the right to a public hearing on any charges or allegations formally filed, the right to confront and cross-examine witnesses called to testify against them, the right to

present evidence on their own behalf, the right to testify on their own behalf, the right to receive written findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting the decision on the merits of the complaint, and the right to obtain judicial review of the decision. All of these rights are being voluntarily waived by TMCBS in exchange for the BOARD'S acceptance of this Consent Decree.

If the Consent Decree is not accepted by the BOARD, no member of the BOARD will be disqualified from further hearing of this matter, by reason of his or her consideration of the Consent Decree. TMCBS hereby waive any claim of bias or prejudice based upon said consideration by any member of the BOARD in any subsequent disciplinary hearing conducted by the BOARD.

JURISDICTION

TMCBS acknowledges that the BOARD has jurisdiction over them and the conduct alleged in the Complaint. TMCBS acknowledge that the BOARD has the legal power and authority to take disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, the revocation of permits to operate funeral establishments and licenses to operate crematories in Nevada.

TMCBS acknowledges that the BOARD will retain jurisdiction over this matter until all terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Decree have been met to the satisfaction of the BOARD.

PUBLICATION OF CONSENT DECREE

TMCBS acknowledges that at the time this Consent Decree becomes effective, it also becomes a public document and will be reported to the State of Nevada, Legislative Council Bureau, Disciplinary Action Reporting System; and such other national databases as required by law. It is also understood that any meeting during which the BOARD considers and accepts or rejects this Consent Decree is open to the public and that the minutes of the BOARD meeting are a public document, available for inspection by any person so requesting.

INDEMNIFICATION

TMCBS, for themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns, hereby indemnify and hold harmless the State of Nevada, the BOARD, the Nevada Attorney General's office and each of its members, agents and employees in their individual and representative capacities against any and all claims, suits, demands, actions, debts, damages, costs, charges, and expenses, including court costs and attorney's fees against any persons entities as well as all liability, losses, and damages of any nature whatsoever that the persons and entities named in this paragraph shall have or may at any time sustain or suffer by reason of this investigation, this disciplinary action, this settlement or its administration.

STIPULATED FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

TMCBS understands the nature of the allegations under consideration by the BOARD. They acknowledge that the conduct alleged in the Complaint, if proven, constitutes violations of the Nevada Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services Practice Act (NRS and NAC 642) and NRS Chapter 451. It further recognizes that if this matter were to be taken to a disciplinary hearing before the BOARD, there is a substantial likelihood that the following allegations could be proven as true, and that as a result they would be subject to disciplinary action by the BOARD. As such, TMCBS does not contest the following allegations:

- 1. TMCBS held a valid permit to operate a funeral establishment at 616 South Wells Avenue, Reno, Nevada on the date of the alleged violations, and continues to hold a valid establishment permit through the present day.
- 2. TMCBS held a valid license to operate a crematory at 1270 Greg Street, Sparks, Nevada on the date of the alleged violations, and continues to hold a valid crematory license though present day.
- 3. An individual with the initials S.F. died on June 9, 2017 and TMCBS handled the final arrangements for the cremation of S.F.

- 4. TMCBS released the cremated remains of S.F. to a family member who was not authorized to claim the remains in accordance with the signed cremation authorization.
- 5. NRS 642.5174(11) states that unprofessional conduct includes violation of any provision of this chapter, any regulation adopted thereto or any order of the Board.
- 6. NRS 642.5174(12) states that unprofessional conduct includes violation of any state law or municipal or county ordinance affecting the handling, custody, care or transportation of dead human bodies, including, without limitation, chapters 440, 451 and 452 of NRS.
- 7. NRS 451.660 states that a crematory shall not cremate human remains until the agent has signed an authorization, which states the name of the person authorized to claim the cremated remains.
- 8. NRS 451.695 states that the agent who orders the cremation is responsible for the disposition of the remains.
 - 9. That pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 642.5175:

The following acts are grounds for which the Board may take disciplinary action against a person who holds a license, permit, or certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter or chapter 451 or chapter 452 of NRS, or may refuse to issue such a license, permit, or certificate to an applicant therefor:

- 1. Conviction of a crime involving moral turpitude.
- 2. Unprofessional conduct.
- 3. False or misleading advertising.
- 4. Conviction of a felony relating to the practice of funeral directors
 - funeral arrangers.
 - 5. Conviction of a misdemeanor that is related directly to the business of a funeral establishment, direct cremation facility, cemetery,
 - or crematory.
- 10. That pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 642.5176:

If the Board determines that a person who holds a license, permit or certificate issued by the Board pursuant to this chapter or chapter 451 or 452 of NRS has committed any of the acts set forth in NRS 642.5175 the Board may:

(a) Refuse to renew the license or permit;

(b) Revoke the license or permit;

(c) Suspend the license or permit for a definite period or until further order of the Board;

d) Impose a fine of not more than \$5,000 for each act that constitutes a ground for disciplinary action;

 (e) Place the person on probation for a definite period subject to any reasonable conditions imposed by the Board;

(f) Administer a public reprimand; or

(g) Impose any combination of disciplinary actions set forth in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.

2. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.

- An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.
- 11. TMCBS does not contest the allegations in the Complaint, and acknowledges that as a consequence they are subject to discipline pursuant to the above charges and statutory provisions.

STIPULATED ADJUDICATION

TMCBS stipulates that pursuant to the authority of NRS 642.5176, the BOARD will administer a PUBLIC REPRIMAND. In addition, TMCBS agrees to comply with the following conditions:

- 1. Within thirty (30) days of the approval and execution of this Consent Decree, TMCBS shall pay legal and investigative fees in the amount of five hundred sixty three and 41/100 (\$563.41).
 - a. No grace period is permitted. Full payment not actually received by

BOARD on or before the thirty days as indicated above, shall be construed as an event of default by TMCBS.

b. In the event of default, TMCBS agrees that its establishment permit and crematory license shall be immediately suspended. The suspension of TMCBS's permit to operate a funeral establishment and license to operate a crematory, shall continue until the unpaid balance is paid in full and the suspension is subject to being reported to all appropriate agencies.

- 2. Within ninety (90) days of the approval and execution of this Consent Decree, TMCBS shall provide a training to all staff employed by TMCBS, covering, at a minimum, identification of cremated remains, chain of custody documentation, proper documentation for releasing remains, policies and procedures related to record keeping, legal risks related to the funeral and cremation industry, and Nevada state laws pertaining to the funeral and cremation industry. The training must be presented in person and the training presenter(s) and content must be pre-approved by the Board Executive Director.
- 3. Within ninety (90) days of approval and execution of this Consent Decree, TMCBS shall present written policies and procedures detailing the procedures for release of cremated remains, and proof that all employees have received a copy of the written policies and procedures.
- 4. TMCBS shall obey all federal, state and local laws, and orders of the BOARD, which are not inconsistent with this Consent Decree, pertaining to the operation of a funeral establishment or crematory in this State. Any and all violations shall be reported by TMCBS to the BOARD in writing within seventy-two (72) hours.
- 5. TMCBS agrees that they will be financially responsible for all requirements of this Consent Decree and any reasonable financial assessments by the Board for the Cost of monitoring its compliance or carrying out the provisions of this Consent Decree.

VIOLATION OF TERMS OF CONSENT DECREE

TMCBS understands that the BOARD may, upon thirty (30) days' notice to respondents, convene a hearing for the limited purpose of establishing that they violated the terms of this Consent Decree. If such a hearing results in a finding of a violation of this Consent Decree, the BOARD may impose any penalty upon TMCBS authorized by NRS 642.5176.

TMCBS agrees to waive their rights to appeal the substantive legal basis of the original disciplinary action, which is the basis for this Consent Decree. In the event an alleged violation of the Consent Decree is taken to hearing and the facts that constitute

2 BOARD. ACCEPTANCE BY THE BOARD 3 This Consent Decree will be presented and accepted by the BOARD with a 4 recommendation for approval from the Attorney General's Office at its next meeting. 5 COMPLETE CONSENT DECREE 6 7 This Consent Decree embodies the entire agreement between the BOARD and TMCBS. It may not be altered, amended, or modified without the express written 8 consent of the parties. 9 DATED this 13th day of February, 2018 10 11 12 By: Chad Schuchert, Managing Member 13 Truckee Meadow Cremation and Burial Services, LLC Funeral Establishment Permit No. EST108 14 Crematory License No. CRE102 15 DATED this 13 day of 1e5 rum, 2018 16 17 By: 18 Robert Dotson, Attorney at Law One East First Street 19 City Hall Tower, 16th Floor Reno, NV 89501 20 (775) 501-9400 III21 22 $/\!/\!/$ III23 24 $/\!/\!/$ 25 /// /// 26

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the violation are determined to be not proven, no disciplinary action shall be taken by the

The foregoing Consent Decree between TRUCKEE MEADOWS CREMATION & BURIAL SERVICES and the STATE OF NEVADA FUNERAL AND CEMETERY SERVICES BOARD in Case No. FB17-19 is approved as to form and content. DATED this day of Esclery, 2018 ADAM PAUL LAXALT Attorney General Senior Deputy Attorney General 100 N. Carson Street Carson City, Nevada 89701 (775) 684-1234

ORDER

By a majority vote on the 5th day of June, 2018, the State of Nevada
Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services approved and adopted the terms and conditions
set forth in the attached Consent Decree with TRUCKEE MEADOWS CREMATION &
BURIAL SERVICES.
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND MADE EFFECTIVE.
DATED this 514 day of JUNE, 2018

Dr. Randy Sharp, Chairman for the Board of Funeral and Cemetery Services

By:

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